

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1 – 17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) A process for printing with a printing mechanism that includes a tempering device comprising at least one cooling element and an ink nozzle that applies printing ink between a distribution roller and a distribution cylinder, said process comprising:

adjusting a temperature of ink in at least one of ~~an~~ the ink nozzle, an ink supply and a metering device in the printing mechanism via the tempering device;

wherein the adjusting of the temperature of ink comprises adjusting a temperature of the printing mechanism with the cooling element, and

cooling the printing mechanism with the cooling element when the temperature of the printing mechanism exceeds a predetermined temperature.

19. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 18, wherein the printing mechanism is located within a machine of the tobacco processing industry.

20. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 19, wherein said machine is a cigarette rod machine.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 18, wherein the ink temperature is adjusted in the at least one of the ink supply, the metering device, and the ink nozzle of the printing mechanism by at least one heating element.

23. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 22, wherein the at least one heating element comprises a heating cartridge.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 18, further comprising flowing a medium through the cooling element.

26. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 18, wherein at least some components of the printing mechanism are located at least partially on the cooling element, whereby the components are cooled by the cooling element.

27. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 18, wherein the at least one cooling element comprises a device producing a cooled air flow, and the ink temperature is adjusted by directing the cooled air flow toward a portion of the printing mechanism.

28. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 18, further comprising controlling or regulating the tempering device through a control or regulation device.

29. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 18, further comprising heating the ink in the ink nozzle.

30. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 18, further comprising detecting a temperature of the ink in the ink nozzle.

31. (Original) The process in accordance with claim 18, further comprising measuring ink pressure before discharge from the ink nozzle.

32 and 33. (Canceled).

34. (Currently amended) A process for printing a cigarette paper strip in a machine of the tobacco processing industry comprising a printing mechanism, said process comprising:

guiding the cigarette paper strip to the printing mechanism having a tempering device and an ink nozzle that applies printing ink between a distribution roller and a distribution cylinder; and

adjusting at least one of a temperature and a viscosity of the ink in the printing mechanism via the tempering device,

wherein the adjusting of the at least one of the temperature and the viscosity of the ink comprises adjusting the temperature of the printing mechanism with a cooling element, and

cooling the printing mechanism with the cooling element when the temperature of the printing mechanism exceeds a predetermined temperature.

35. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 18, wherein the cooling element includes a cooling plate.

36. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 35, wherein the cooling plate features channels.

37. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 36, wherein a pump is provided for conveying cooling fluid through the channels.

38. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 18, wherein the cooling element includes a heat exchanger.

39. (Currently amended) The process in accordance with claim 18, wherein the cooling ~~40~~-element includes a cold air generator or an eddy current generator.

40. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 18, wherein the adjusting of the temperature of ink comprises adjusting the temperature of rollers and cylinders of the printing mechanism with the cooling element.

41. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 18, wherein the cooling takes place continuously or periodically.

42. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 34, wherein the cooling element includes a cooling plate.

43. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 34, wherein the cooling plate features channels.

44. (Currently amended) The process in accordance with claim ~~[[34]]~~43, wherein a pump is provided for conveying cooling fluid through the channels.

45. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 34, wherein the cooling element includes a heat exchanger.

46. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 34, wherein the cooling element includes a cold air generator or an eddy current generator.

47. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 34, wherein the adjusting of the temperature of ink comprises adjusting the temperature of rollers and cylinders of the printing mechanism with the cooling element.

48. (Previously presented) The process in accordance with claim 34, wherein the cooling takes place continuously or periodically.